

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A closure for a valve of a connector of a haemostatic valve assembly, the connector comprising a longitudinally extending main section having a longitudinally extending, through going passage with the valve at a proximal end of the connector, the closure comprising:

a closure member which is made from a resilient material having a ~~core section and which defines~~ a first and a second~~[[,]]~~ opposite end surface wherein the first surface comprises a tapered core section which extends into a longitudinal passage of the connector ~~a concave portion which is adapted to be engaged by a tubular member which is configured to extend through the closure member~~ and the second surface of the core section comprises a concave portion which is adapted to be engaged by a tubular member which is configured to extend through the closure member ~~a protrusion which extends into a longitudinal passage of the connector~~, wherein the tapered core section ~~protrusion of the second~~ first surface~~[[s]]~~ of the ~~core section~~ closure member is tapered along the entire length of the tapered core section which is positioned in the longitudinal passage of the connector so that its diameter is larger at its proximal extent than at its distal extent and such that the walls of the tapered core section do not contact the walls of the longitudinal passage of the

connector when the closure member is not engaged by the tubular member;
and

at least one passage slit, the passage slit being normally closed and extending between the two end surfaces, the passage slit being arranged to open by the tubular member which is configured to extend therethrough, the passage slit having a larger extent at the ~~first~~ second surface than the ~~second~~ first surface such that the smaller extent of the passage slit is positioned in the concave portion at the ~~first~~ second surface and a larger extent of the ~~second~~ passage slit is associated with the tapered core section ~~protrusion~~ on the ~~second~~ first surface of the ~~core section~~ closure member such that when a tubular member extends through the passage slit the tubular member will not stretch or deform the closure member.

2. (Previously Presented) A closure according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of passage slits which define a first, common point of contact on the first surface and which extend radially outwardly from the point of contact at the first surface.

3. (Previously Presented) A closure according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of passage slits define a second, common point of contact on the second surface.

4. (Previously Presented) A closure has a length on the second surface

which is at most 1/10th of the length of that passage slit on the first surface.

5. (Previously Presented) A closure according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the first end surface and at least a portion of the second end surface define two substantially parallel planes, and wherein an axis extending between a first and second common point of contact is substantially perpendicular to the two planes.

6. (Cancelled) A closure according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of one of the first and second end surfaces is concave.

7. (Cancelled) A closure according to claim 6, wherein said concave portion is provided on the second surface-

8. (Cancelled) A closure according to claim 1, wherein of the connector, one of said face and end surface being provided with a protrusion for engaging a corresponding indentation provided in the other one of said face and said end surface.

9. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein the connector, one of said face and end surface being provided with a protrusion for engaging a corresponding indentation provided in the other one of said face and said end surface the closure member is made from a resilient material

which is adapted to deform in the area of said protrusion and said indentation when said face and said end surface are biased towards each other, so as to thereby provide a liquid tight seal near an outer periphery of the passage at a proximal end thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) A closure according to claim 8, wherein the protrusion is integral with the closure member.

11. (Previously Presented) A connector for a haemostatic valve assembly and comprising a closure according to claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 11, wherein the valve with the closure is arranged near a proximal end of the connector.

13. (Previously Presented) A connector according to claim 12, wherein the second surface of the closure is oriented to face the proximal end of the connector.

14. (Previously Presented) A kit comprising a connector according to claim 11, and a side arm tubing for a side arm of the connector.

15. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 14, further comprising a stopcock to be connected to one end of the side arm tubing.

16. (New) A closure for a valve of a connector of a haemostatic valve assembly, the connector comprising a longitudinally extending main section having a longitudinally extending, through going passage with the valve at a proximal end of the connector, the closure comprising:

a closure member which is made from a resilient material having a first and a second opposite end surface wherein the first surface comprises a tapered core section which extends into a longitudinal passage of the connector and the second surface of the core section comprises a concave portion which is adapted to be engaged by a tubular member which is configured to extend through the closure member, wherein the tapered core section of the first surface of the closure member is tapered along the entire length of the tapered core section which is positioned in the longitudinal passage of the connector so that its diameter is larger at its proximal extent than at its distal extent; and

at least one passage slit, the passage slit being normally closed and extending between the two end surfaces, the passage slit being arranged to open by the tubular member which is configured to extend therethrough, the passage slit having a larger extent at the first surface than the second surface such that the smaller extent of the passage slit is positioned in the tapered core section at the first surface and a larger extent of the passage slit is associated with the concave portion at the first surface thereby defining a guide for the catheter to at least partially force the tubular member being

introduced through the closure member into a particular angular alignment with respect to the closure member.